Keep Scab Shirts Off U.S. Market

Nick Heyer

Picketers, in support of the Amalgamted Clothing Workers of America,marched though the downtown area last Monday in a show of unity againist exporting American jobs.

by Modern Times Staff

In answer to a call from the 365,000 members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, for a nationwide demonstration dramatizing their union's goal of stemming the flow of low-wage imports of men's apparel, officers and members of local affiliates here protested the sales of these imports on Monday November 11th and approximately 600 Clothing Workers held a rally on the New Haven Green.

Nicholas Aiello, manager of ACWA, Local 125, in announcingthe demonstration said that " the curtailment of low-wage imports is vital to the preservation of the American apparel industry and the millions of jobs in that industry. It is essential that we stop the export of our jobs in an industry that has lost 300,000 job opportunities in less than a decade."

Low Wage Imports—Loss of Jobs

Mr. Aiello said that over 40% of all men's clothing of a tailored nature sold in this country today is made in Korea by workers receiving as little as 12 cents per hour. American based companies like the Phillips-Van Heusen Co. are having shirts made in Taiwan where workers earn as low as 25 cents per hour.

"The results are clear,"he said, "American apparel workers are working fewer hours, losing wages, losing jobs, in an economy of falling real income and rising unemployment. A loss of jobs in the apparel industry will deal a blow, not only to our members and all clothing workers, but to the nation as a whole."

The union spokesman said that the national officers of his union have called for an all out program to protect the American worker from unregulated low-wage imports and call upon all of the American people to support them in such action.

Local 125, of which Nicholas Aiello has been manager for 10 years, represents 700 members in the New Haven area. They are employed in the following plants:

D & I Shirt Co.
Danfra Ltd.
Elm City Shirt
Fair Mfg.
Gant Shirtmakers
Par-ex Shirts
Planeta Shirt.

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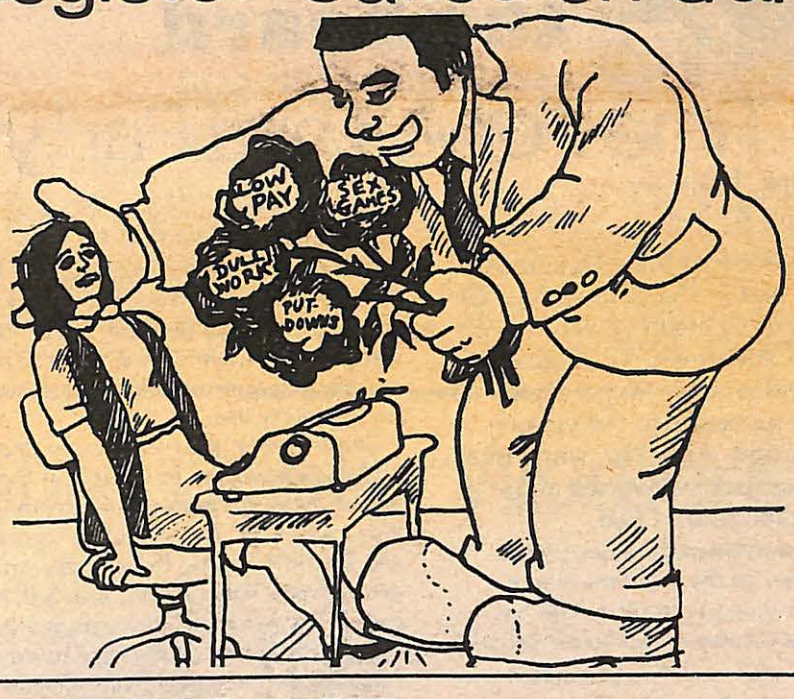
New Haven

Volumne V Number 11 November 15-30

Register Called on Carpet over Sex Bias Charge



by Renée Poirier
Modern Times Staff

On October 13, 1974, eighteen women who work for the Register Publishing Company filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission(EEOC) charging that firm with sex discrimination.

In the affidavit , the company, which publishes the **New Haven Register, The Journal-Courier** and the **Hartford Times**, was cited for alleged discriminatory hiring, promotion, quality of assignment and compensation practices in regards to women.

According to Trish Hall, a copy editor of the **Journal-Courier** and one of the signers of the complaint, the papers have few women in management positions. With the exception of the women's section, Ms. Hall said there are no women editors. She also stated that men are often promoted ahead of women, even though they have the same length of service.

Hall went on to say that the Register Publishing Company's policies were erractic in general; job openings are not posted, making it difficult for employees to apply for higher positions, and wages are not determined by any known system, resulting in people being hired for the same psotions at different rates of pay.

Benefits For Men And Women

"The reason we filed the suit was to establish procedures. There is no clear one at the **Register or Journal-Courier** that we know of,"Hall stated. "We believe our complaint will benefit both men and women, because it points out the erractic personnel policies."

The affidavit is now in the hands of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights, which has 60 days in which to act. If that agency does not finish its investgations , is unable to effect a concilliation, the complaint then will be returned to the EEOC for 120 days. If no result is reached at that time, the plaintiffs will be given a right-to-sue letter, and within 30 days they may take the case to Federal Court.

According to Mary Ellen Wynn, attorney for the women, if the case gets to court, which seems likely because both the state and federal agency are back-logged and understaffed , the plaintiffs will seek an injunction againist the papers to stop discrimination. They will also ask for an affirmative action program to correct the imbalances in the companies staff, and seek damages for individual plaintiffs.

AT PRESS TIME:

On Wednesday, November 12, Yale University backed down and agreed to accept the recomendations of a fact-finder. Local 35, Federation of University Employees, AFL-CIO, had earlier announced their acceptance of the recommendations. Thus, the Union won some important consessions in its on going struggle with Yale. The following is an outline of the settlement terms.

1. Wages
   A. Yale Position—First year:6%; 2nd:5% and 3rd:6%
   B.Union Position—First year:9%;2nd:8% and 3rd:9%
   C. Fact-finder—7% each year.
2. Up-gradings
   A.Yale position—None
   B. Union—29 job titles
   C.Fact-finder—11 job titles
3. Yale students
   A. Yale—permit Yale students to work in all jobs up to and including Labor Grade 6.
   B.Union—keep the present clause which permits Yale students to work up to Grade 4 plus two jobs in L.G.5.
   C. Fact-Finder --No change in the contract.
4. Contract Term
   A. Yale Position --Contract would start May I, 1974, and end April 30, 1977.
   B. Union Position -- Contract would start on the date we settle the contract and run for three years from that date.
   C. Fact-Finder -- Contract would start on July 10, 1974, and end July 9,1977

On the Health issue, the Union wanted the University to pay the entire cost of either Blue Cross,CMS, and Major Medical coverage OR Yale Health Plan coverage for all employees and their dependents; the Universtiy wanted to continue to require Union-members to pay a substantial share of the health insurance premiums (about 40%). On this issue, the fact-finder recommended a compromise by which the Union members would be required to pay approximately 25% of the premiums for health insurance or health plan coverage, with Yale paying approximately 75%.

The new contract is scheduled for ratification by Local 35 members this Friday, Nov. 15.

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High School Class Calls For Patient's Rights Bill

The Politics class at High School in the Community today is formally proposing that a Patients' Bill of Rights be adopted into law. Often, patients do not get proper information in doctors' offices nor in hospitals.

The Patients' Bill of Rights states that a patient "must be able to refuse treatment, have access to his own records, and must be able to expect total confidentiality regarding diagnosis, source of payment, etc."

Doctors very often do not explain illnesses fully to patients nor do they explain the effects that drugs which have been administered to the patients might have; nor do the doctors even tell the patients how serious their conditions are.

Areas of Interest

In general, we are for the most part interested in the following areas: informed consent, privacy, access to records, and access to a patient advocate.

Specifically the bill proposes that:

--the patient may decide who the decision maker will be regarding his medical treatment.

--the patient will be given the best possible care regardless of source of payment.

--the patient must be fully informed of the precise nature of his condition, the possible effects of prescribed drugs, and of all alternative treatments.

--the patient must have the option of accepting or rejecting any treatment.

--the patient must, except in an emergency situation, be able to meet any doctors and have their qualifications explained in full.

--the patient is entitled to complete privacy regarding his medical condition, treatment, records, and source of payment. All release of such information must be approved by the patient in writing.

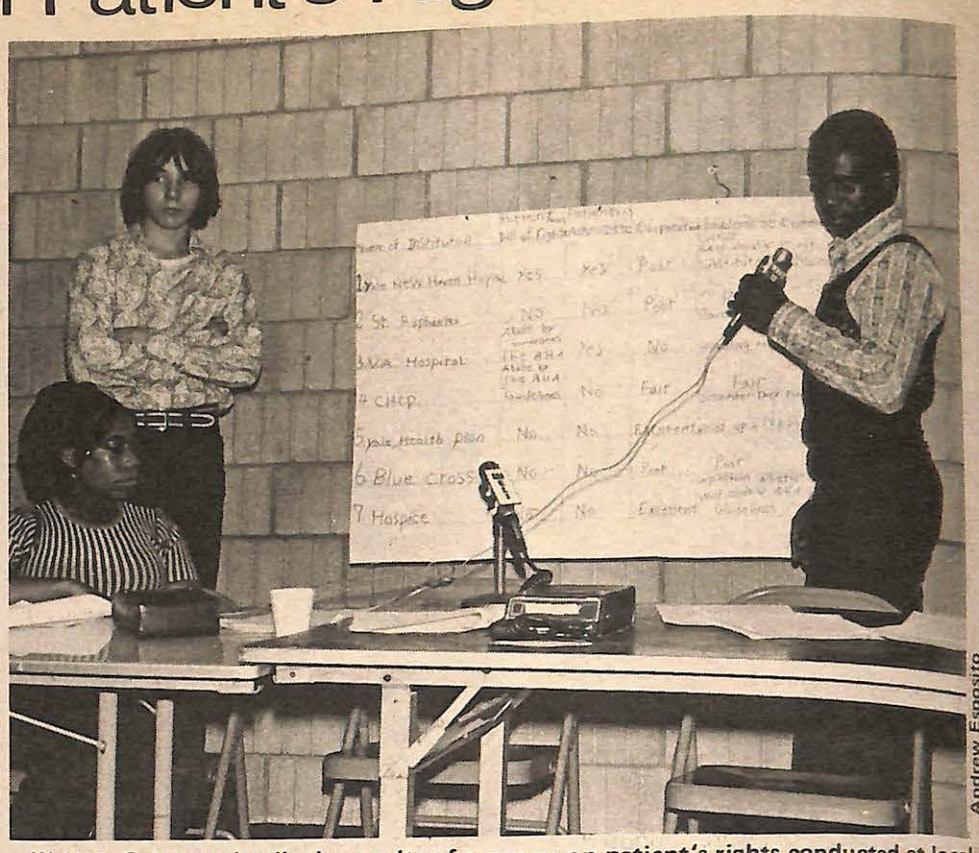
--the patient must have complete access to his own medical records, and has the right to have them explained in language he can understand.

--the patient must be informed when procedures are experimental and be fully informed as to their purpose.

--each patient must be provided with a patient advocate whose job will be to help the patient understand all dimensions of his or her medical treatment, to inform patients of their rights, and to help to enforce them.

Should Be Informed

In short, we believe that all patients should have certain rights by law which state clearly that patients must be fully informed, and that the burden for securing these rights should fall on medical personnel rather than the patient. We favor, therefore, a state law which would guarantee these rights to all Connecticut residents.



Wallace Coleman details the results of a survey on patient's rights conducted at local hospitals as co-worker Scott Robinson looks on.

The Politics class is a special class whose purpose is to show the students the political process used to change a law or to introduce a new Bill into Legislature.

This class meets five days a week, three hours a day. There are nine students who are divided into three groups: Public Relations, Lobbying, and Research. Each group did its own research and learned one procedure involved in the whole political process. They are circulating a survey questionnaire and petitions, and are learning both the formal and informal procedures for introducing laws. They plan on meeting with the new State Legislators from New Haven, and will ask them to support this Bill.

To Get Real Help in an Emergency Do More Than Wish: Go FISH

by Edw. Breuler
Modern Times Staff

As everyone knows, we are in the midst of an economic recession. Each week we all find it a little harder to make ends meet. Prices keep rising and the means to support ourselves become more inadequate. What does an elderly person, the family on welfare, or the person out of work do when the strings are pulled too tight and there is no food to eat? No transportation to visit a sick relative? Many go FISH!

FISH is a 24 hour, 7 day a week, free emergency service run completely by voluteers who provide transportation, contribiute and deliver food and help the people in the New Haven area who are unable to find immediate help from the standard conventional agencies.

Formed in England in 1961 by an Anglican Church, it's main purpose is to help others in the best possible way. It was established in the New Haven area in 1968 by the Christian Community Action, Dunbard Church in Hamden and St. John's Episcopal Church in North Haven. As of now, there are about 30 chapters of FISH in Connecticut and many others all over the country.

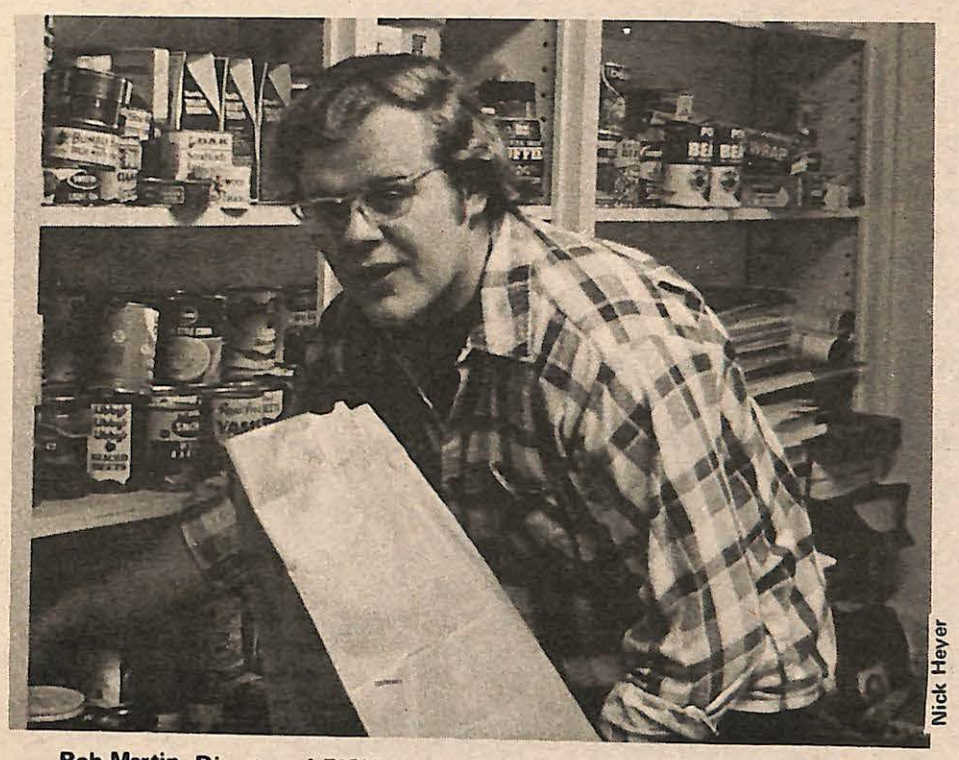
Care For Emergency Needs

FISH is also a part of New Haven's Free Food Council along with the Fair Haven Parent's Ministry and the Christian Union. Together these groups have picked up the emergency needs of the area and have done so with great success.

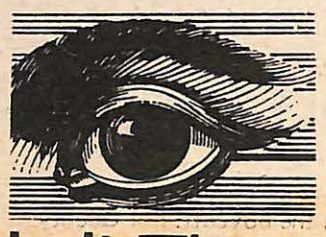
One reason for the success of FISH is that it is built on the foundation of community action. It attempts through volunteers to help others in distress. By volunteers contributing their time, food, and gas for transportation they have been able to meet the needs of fifteen or twenty people who call every day.

Like all such organizations FISH needs more voluteers to serve at least one day a month. If you are interested in helping, call 776-0471. Your help will be greatly appreciated. If you need assistance call 624-5000.

In this economic squeeze, it's nice to know that some people are taking the initiative to provide an emergency service that works and with no lines or long forms to fill out. With FISH, it's swim not sink!



Bob Martin, Director of FISH, replenishes the emergency food shelves at FISH Inc. on College St.



eye on the board

Is It Time For A Third Party?

by Andrew Esposito
Modern Times Staff

The election of Mike Natalino(D—14) to a seat in the Connecticut General Assembly creates a vacancy on the Board of Aldermen. That vacancy will be filled when Mayor Guida appoints a successor to the victorious Natalino. And thus, some interesting questions are raised about how vacancies are filled.

At present, whenever a position becomes open on the board the mayor designates someone to fill it. This has resulted in a number of lack-luster people becoming aldermen. Two examples spring quickly to mind.

Jack Penders(D-11) was first appointed to the board in 1972. He subsequently won election in his own right in the 1973 elections. Since then Penders has moved out of the 11th ward and has had one of the worst, if not the worst, attendance records on the Board.

A second case is that of former 9th ward alderman Enrico Pizzorusso. He was appointed by Guida just before the 1973 elections, attended a couple of board meetings, won election, and resigned; all in the space of six months. Clearly, both these appointments have turned out to be disasterous for the people of the 9th and 11th wards.

There is a Better Way

Now Guida has to appoint yet another alderman. Based on the mayor's past track record, there isn't much hope of the 14th ward getting anything but a party hack to represent it. Thus, city government will sink further into the quagmire of despair.

A better method, for selecting aldermanic replacements, would be to hold a special election whenever a vacancy on the board occurs. Running an election in a single ward would cost very little. It would place the job of selecting an alderman where it belongs, in the hands of the voters.

However, there is little to be gained by devising better methods for choosing aldermen. For, the power structure of the dominant Democratic Party likes things just the way they are. It's a nice system and it's safe. There is no danger of selecting someone who will not follow the party line.

Consequently, the real losers in this whole operation are the people of New Haven. While the special interest groups are looked after, New Haveners' concerns and interests fall by the wayside—streets arn't paved, lights are not installed, garbage is not picked up, etc., etc.,etc; the list is endless. And because the board members lack the necessary independence, none dares to attack the bumbling, fumbling Guida administration.

Challenges Have Failed

The answer, to better representation, appears simple. Change the power structure and you change the atmosphere. This isn't a new idea, many people have already thought of it. They challenged in the usual manner by running a primary. Needless to say, they were unsuccessful. Thus, the power structure remains the same today as it was 20 years ago.

Therefore, launching an attack from within the Democratic or Republican Party is not the answer to social change. Besides, what is needed are new ideas and new approaches to the problems facing New Haven;and the present leadership isn't providing any possible solutions. Given these facts, it seems that one likely answer would be to form a third party. One which would be very different from the Democratic and Republican Parties.

If the national polls are anywhere close to being accurate, a large percentage of the population wants a third party. Most people are tired of the "politics as usual approach" and seek something new.

Many possibilities exist for third party movements. It is certainly one way out of the current governmental mess.

U.F.W Boycotts Play

by United Farm Workers

Peter Ustinov appeared last week in his latest production, **"Who's Who in Hell"** at the Shubert Theatre in New Haven. Theater goers who attended the show Monday night were greeeted by a picket line outside the door.

Forty people picketed the entrance to the Shubert in support of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO boycott of all Gallo wines. The Shubert Theatre was the site of the protest because Ustinov has recently done T.V. advertising on behalf of Gallo wines.

According to Bob Callahan, New Haven Coordinator for the UFW, "The effect of these ads is to break the strike of Gallo farmworkers. Whether or not the Gallo farmworkers are going to win the right to choose their own union depends on the strength of the boycott. By doing these ads Ustinov is actively fighting us."

Agreed To Meet With UFW

The UFW supporters were supposed to picket Ustinov on Saturday, Oct 26, his opening night. However they agreed to suspend the picket line when Ustinov agreed to meet with UFW representatives the next day.

Callahan, Mary Johnson from the Greater New Haven Central Labor Council and William Sloan Coffin from Yale met Ustinov for over an hour on Sunday, Oct.27.

Ustinov then contacted Gallo several times to confirm their position on elections for farm workers.

The protestors contend that Gallo switched contracts from the UFW to the Teamsters without the concent of the workers and that they have refused to allow the elections to resolve the issues.

Boycott Takes Hold

As a result of the pressure from recent picketing and widespread support from within the Yale community, Quality Liquors on Broadway has decided not to stock or restock Gallo wines. Quality was the target of several weeks of picketing conducted by local supporters of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO.

The UFW supporters are urging all consumers not to buy any Gallo wines and all package stores not to stock the products. The campaign is in support of a national boycott of all Gallo wines called by the Cesar Chavez led United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO.

"Respect Wishes of Workers"

According to Ricardo Narvaiz, one of the picketers, "The boycott is trying to make the Gallo Wine Company respect the wishes of its workers for union representation." He explained that, "Gallo signed contracts with the UFW in 1967, but that in 1973, when the contracts expired, Gallo immediately decided to switch to the Teamsters Union." Narvaiz emphasized that, "These contracts were signed without the consent of the Farm Workers themselves. Gallo refused to allow elections and so the workers went out on strike demanding that Gallo negotiate with the UFW, the union of the workers' choice."

Ann Woolhandler, another spokesperson for the support group, said that, "The Teamster contracts were signed solely to protect the company and drive the UFW out of the fields." She added that, "Because the Gallo Company markets under several labels, such as Paisano, Andre, Boones Farm, Madria Madria Sangria and Spanada, the boycott includes all wines bottled in Modesto, Cal."

Refuse to Drop Gallo

Initially, Quality refused to drop its Gallo wines. However it finally decided to cooperate with the boycott when several Yale social groups decided to take their accounts to other stores if Quality continued stocking Gallo products. The decision by the social committees was the result of hundreds of petitions from students urging the groups not to do business with package stores refusing to cooperate with the boycott. For Quality Liquor Store, the loss of business would have amounted to several thousand dollars.

Several other New Haven package stores have also agreed to stop stocking Gallo wines. Chapel Package Store, Allstate Package Store and Campus Liquors all agreed to drop Gallo wines without any picketing by the UFW support group

Labor Notes

Empty Promises—Empty Lunchbaskets

Empty lunch buckets were packed up for mailing to the White House federal officials and congressional representatives to focus attention on the plight of unemployed members of the Carpenters in Oregon. The Williamette Valley Council of Lumber & Sawmill Workers collected about 800 lunch buckets from its jobless members. Nearly 20 percent of the district council members are without work.

Profit Rise Paced by Food, Fuel

Corporations kept on piling up higher profits in the third quarter of 1974—29.6 percent above the like quarter of 1973, according to a Wall Street Journal survey.

The big moneymakers were the petroleum firms and the grocery store chains, industries that provide food and fuel which account for the largest budget outlay of the average American worker.

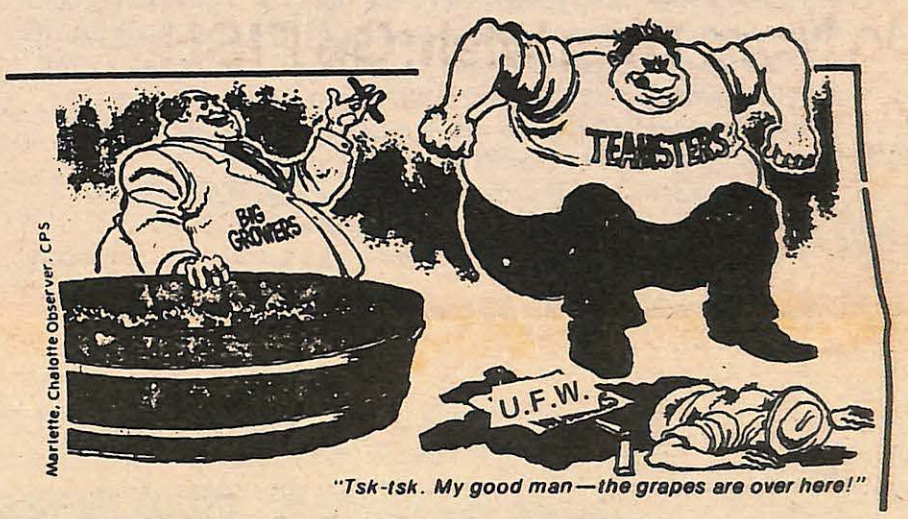
The Journal study shows 14 chain grocers ringing up $87.9 million in after-tax profits during the July-September period. That was 115 percent higher than in the third quarter of 1973.

Twenty petroleum products companies, including the major oil firms, increased their after-tax profits over the quarter by 52 percent.

Chicago AFT Scores a Victory

The growing shadow of inflation and educational cutbacks was met head on last month by a new one-year contract negotiated by the Chicago Teachers Union, AFTLocal 1. The agreement, overwhelmingly ratified by the city's teachers, provides a 9 percent salary increase across the board, and, despite dropping pupil enrollments, adds 200 teachers to those schools where student achievement has been the lowest.

The significant new agreement came just under the deadline of a strike. Teachers had voted to walk out Sept. 23 unless the board of education had agreed to a new pact, and picket signs and strike committees were ready.



"Tsk-tsk. My good man—the grapes are over here!"

Child Center Workers Won't Sell Out for Nickel

by members of the American Federation of State, County, and Municiple Employees

Local 1303, the Union of the workers at the Children's Center in Hamden, is a Union of 45 employees working under our first Union contract. It took 6 months of patient negotiating to bring the contract into existence. We are the only private residential treatment center in Connecticut with a Union contract.

Our jobs--child care, maintenance, teaching, and kitchen work--revolve around supplying decent and structured care for emotionally disturbed children. We have had to compromise at the bargaining table on a number of issues, because it is our desire to help the children and not upset the existing structures.

How much compromise?

Recently, we have had wage re-opener negotiating sessions. Both sides sat down to discuss improvements in wage rates, especially among child care workers. Our teachers received no wage increases--we accepted. Our maintenance workers were offered a two percent (2%) wage increase--and we accepted. Other employees were offered two percent--and we accepted. Kitchen employees were offered two percent--WE COULD NOT ACCEPT

Our kitchen employees, who prepare and serve the food to the children, earn only $2.41 to $2.77 per hour. Everyone knows that people cannot live on this amount, especially as the cost of living continues to rise. We were offered a 5 cents an hour increase; we are only asking for a 10 cent increase. But the Center has refused to budge.

Right to Grieve

Also the Center wanted to implement a system of merit increases. We bargained back and forth, but in the end, we gave in on the merit system. Then management claimed that the language would disallow the use of the grievance procedure on the merit system. But what if an employee is discriminated against on his or her merit evaluation? Without a grievance procedure we have no recourse.

Kitchen employees deserve at least an additional 10 cents an hour. And we won the grievance procedure only after a long negotiating struggle in the past. We are not going to give up our right to grieve an injustice! These are the minimal demands we must make to retain our digdignity. How can we help children become responsible adults when we are not treated like adults? This is why we must picket at the Children's Center at 1400 Whitney Ave.

Nick Heyer

Staff members of the Children's Center are shown walking an information picket line in front of the facility on Whitney Ave. The dispute centers around wages and grievance procedures. They are not on strike.

editorial

Ford's Financial Fumbles

Ford's basic idea is to raise about $5 billion in new taxes and then spend them in such a way as to stop the inflation. However, the government now collects and spends $300 billion a year. New taxes and spending amounting to under two percent of current government activity, cannot be enough to "turn America around" and "whip inflation now."

About half of the $5 billion in new taxes is to come from a surcharge (five percent)on individual income taxes. Those who will be paying more are individuals earning over $7500 per year and married couples(who file joint tax returns)who earn over $15,000.

The average family will be hit hard so that big business will be able to escape with tax benefits. Although the other half of the $5 billion in new taxes is to come from a similar tax surcharge on corporation incomes, the corporations are allowed to make new deductions in their taxes that are larger than the surcharge. Big business which takes advantage of these new "investment tax credits" will profit rather than pay for Ford's plan. The cold statistics are that of the $5 billion in new taxes to be raised, about $2.5 billion will immediately be lost in taxes no longer paid because businesses are taking advantage of the new deductions. The industry that stands to benefit most from these new deductions is the public utility business, which will now gain hundreds of millions in addition to the "fuel adjustments" bonanzas which milked just those people whom Ford is milking.

Ford's plan thus boils down to a deal that leaves bigbusiness better off than before while hitting hard at the middle income levels of American society, particularly at those families in which a second adult has had to work to make ends meet. A very small crumb is thrown to the desperate folk at the bottom of the economy to prevent them from tearing the place apart.

MODERN TIMES advocates:

(1)Nationalize the oil, coal, gas and electircity sectors of the economy on the grounds of their being essential to the national interest in general and to the solution of inflation now in particular. The enormous profits of these industries could have been cut in half, lowering everyone's bill. The profit that remained would have poured into the US Treasury to stimulate the expansion of needed industries(and jobs)while taking care of the unemployed—all at no extra cost to taxpayers.

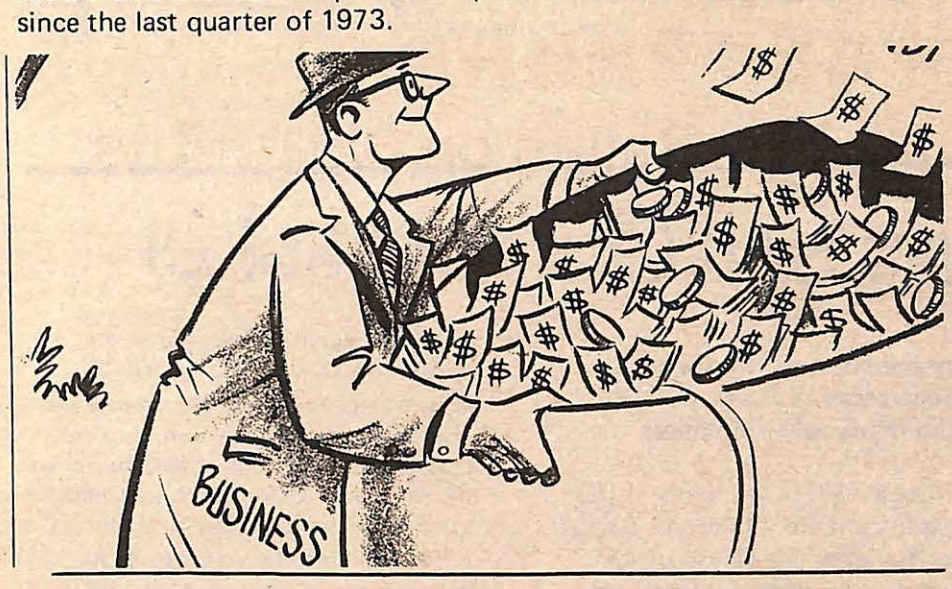
(2)Tax run-away multinational corporations, like Van Heusen whose shirts are made in Taiwan where wages are pitifully low.

(3)Create severe taxes and perhaps legal penalties for those corporations currently moving abroad.

These three policies might go along way towards restoring American jobs and our economy.

(4)Create an excess profits tax.

This would create an enormous revenue since corporations such as big food chains and fuel companies had profits of over and above 115% since the last quarter of 1973.



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MODERN TIMES welcomes all comments and letters to the editors.

MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions from the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working men and women are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where the problems of employment and education, and housing and health care are told by the people who have to live with them.

This is the richest country in the world. Yet most of the wealth is used only by a few. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for paltry raises, waste our resources and labor on missiles and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the vested interests that run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care, and decent jobs.

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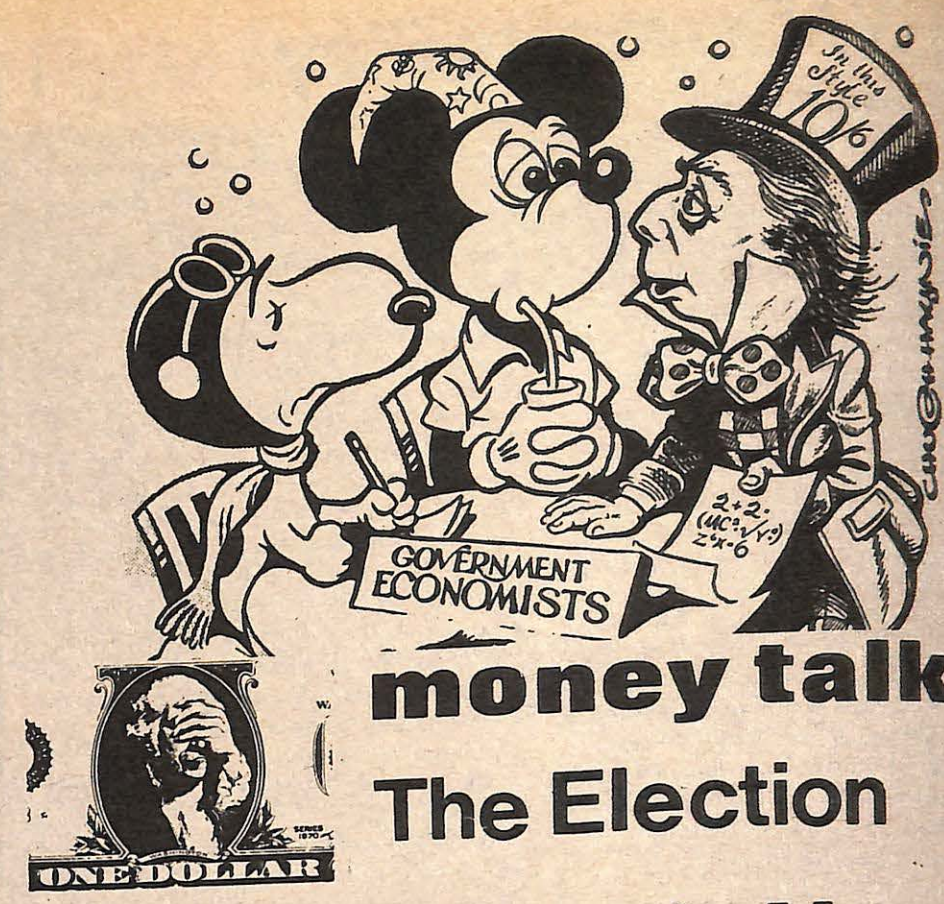


money talks
The Election and the Economic Mess

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

The elections are over. The Democrats made big gains. The winners make stirring speeches about "bold new beginnings" and all that. Yet when you look closely at what they are saying about the economy--the big campaign issue--it is in no way different from what has been said for years by both Republicans and Democrats.

The basic line of business and both parties boils down to this: the U.S. economy must choose between stopping inflation (which requires high unemployment) and stopping unemployment (which involves high inflation). This miserable "choice" is all that the politicians argue about as if that were all the choice we really have.

Before the latest elections, the Ford Administration seemed headed toward slowing inflation by letting unemployment rise. The new Congress may push instead for less unemployment. But that will worsen the inflation.

NEITHER ACCEPTABLE

The hard problem for Washington is that the elections show that the voters were furious about both the inflation and the unemployment. And while this election saw that fury directed against Republicans, next time the victims could just as well be Democrats. Unless some way is found by the Democrats to lower unemployment without worsening inflation.

The one and only way so far tried to do this has been price control or price freeze linked to a corresponding wage control or freeze. The idea is simple: the government spends money to provide more jobs while making it a crime for any wage or price to be raised. Ironically, the Republican Nixon was the latest to try this with his Freezes and Phases in 1971 and 1972.

Nixon's wage-price freezes and controls turned out in practice to be really only wage controls. Prices and therefore profits managed to escape and soar ever upward.

If the Democrats do no more than repeat Nixon's performance, the voters will throw them out at the next elections. So the Democrats will have to go Nixon one better. But how?

Control Profits

The Democrats could try to add a direct profit control to the wage-price control. That is, the government could not only control wages but also clamp down with a real price control. That would block many big corporations from making higher profits. It would be a popular move, but it would bring the government face to face with its most serious crisis within a few months.

A real profit control would force *corporate executives -- whose job it* to maximize profits for the shareholders -- to do some hard figuring. If Democrats in Congress made laws that blocked these companies from making higher profits, the companies would be within their rights -- according to current U.S. law--to stop investing their money in the U.S. They could close factories and offices here -- where profits were not allowed to rise -- and move them to other countries which had no such laws.

Government vs. Business

To put it in plain English, the big U.S. corporations with their many connections abroad already could stick it right back to the Democrats: "If you try try to control our profits, we'll shut down our facilities here so fast that the resulting unemployment will drive you out of office but quick." So any government, Democrat or Republican, that seriously tried to go beyond the "inflation or Unemployment" choice would find itself smack up against the business power mobilized against it. The number of Republicans or Democrats willing to risk anything like that can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

There is no way to escape the conclusion that this situation presents to us. The only possible way to overcome the determined mobilized opposition of business to any serious wage-price-profit control is to build a larger, determined, mobilized, political force built on the working and consuming public. The Republicans and Democrats can't or won't dare to try. It will take a new, truly bold force in American politics to do the job that must be done.

write on

To the Editors:

I am a reader in prison seeking friendship. I have no family to whom I can identify myself with and I am looking for friendship from any individual who would like to be my friend. Please write and I will answer all letters received.

Thank you.

Edward Boykin 131551
P.O. Box 787
Lucasville, Ohio 4548

review

Butchery Exposed in "Muscle & Blood"

"Muscle and Blood" by Rachel Scott. E.P. Dutton and Co., New York. $8.95.

by Andrew J. Esposito
Modern Times Staff

It's easy for us to be appalled by and indignant about the deaths and injuries caused by war. The totals appear in bold headlines and we see a single life ebbing away on our T.V. screens daily. We are filled with revulsion because we see needless slaughter and know it can be prevented.

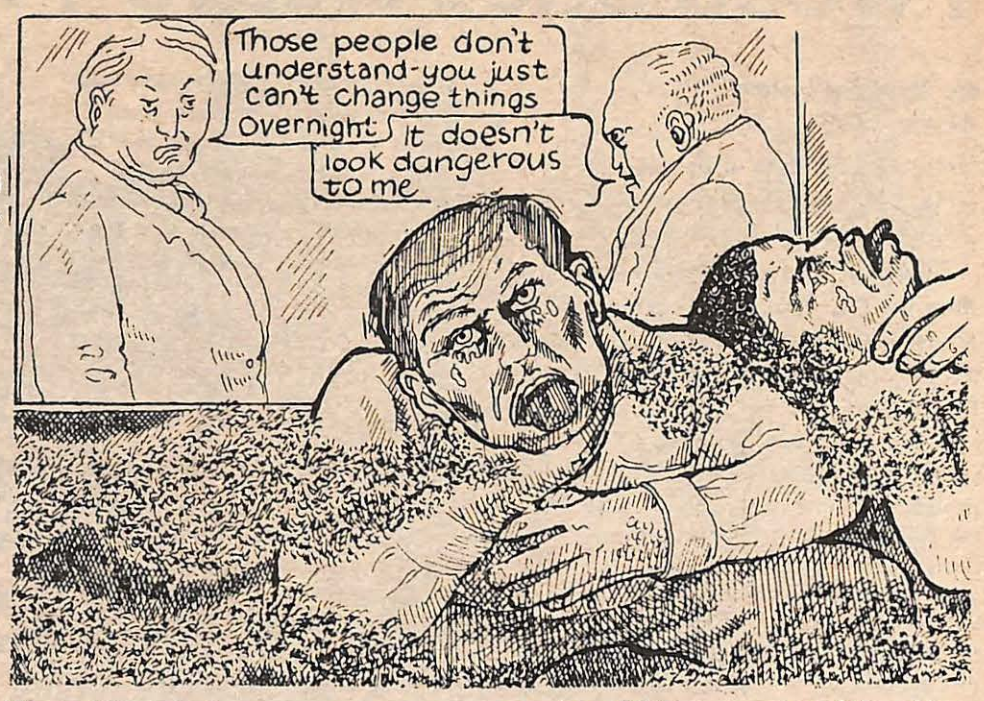
Yet, unknown to most of us, there exist casualties caused by a war which has been raging for longer than any shoot-out war in history. Each year this war kills 100,000 people and disables another 390,000. It's a war in which most of us are front-line troops. We fight its battles every day we work;it is the war to earn a living.

We can read about the appallingly high numbers of people who die and say "that's a shame." But when we come right down to it, we don't really feel the death and suffering because figures are very impersonal things. However, after reading **Muscle and and Blood** one feels, at the gut level, for the victims of industry's butchery.

Book Makes Statistics Real

Rachel Scott has written a book which makes concretethe abstract statistics of industrial carnage. It is no longer 390,000 disabled someones;instead, we think about Ira Sliger—a coal miner afflicted with crippling black lung disease. In case after case we get to meet the people who comprise the army of the maimed.

The fact that work is so hazardous comes as a shock to some people. but not to those who labor in the mines and factories of this country. The commonly held belief is that people no longer die from conditions in their workplace. Yet, current federal government data shows that the plague of occupational deaths and injuries is still with us.



Years of Investigating

Muscle and Blood is the result of three years of investigating the conditions found in American workplaces. Ms. Scott has produced a first rate work in the muckraking tradition of Upton Sinclair. A wide variety of industries are examined by the author. And she finds, in all of them, conditions ~~which~~ risk workers' safety and harm their health.

In industry after industry the scene is the same. Management tries to cover-up any report of industrial accidents. They attempt to get as many accidents as they possibly can classified as non-work related.

Industrial management resorts to any tactic that will inhance their profits. People are easy to replace, they reason, equipment isn't. Therefore, run dangerous machines for as long as possible, use unsafe plants and hazardous chemicals; but above all make a profit.

Ms. Scott's book is a strong indictment of 20th century American capitalism. It's a system which uses people and then discards them like so many worn out machine parts. The reader comes away from the book with a feeling that there must be a better economic system than one which kills 100,000 people yearly.

Socialism is Better

Many feel Socialism is that better system. It is a more humane system;one which which gives people first priority. Under Socialism industries would be run not for the profit of a few select stockholders but for the benefit of everyone.

Muscle and Blood provides the reader with a good introduction to the study of Occupational Safety and Health. Additionally, it vividly demonstrates the greed of American Capitalism. In the words of John Niewierowski, who suffers from carbon disulfide poisoning: "The American worker everywhere is supporting society. The American society, they owe the worker something."

Plot To Slow OSHA?

by New Haven Occupational Safety and Health Group

The Department of Labor's(DOL) contribution to the Nixon re-election campaign was to sabotage its own health and safety programs. The department's plan was contained in a memorandum from former Labor Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health George Guenther to Labor Under Secretary Laurence Stilberman. It was part a program devised by the Nixon Administration to use Federal Agencies to promote the re-election effort.

The memorandum sketches ways in which the DOL could delay implementing important occupational safety and health standards; thus easing the pressure on business and helping Nixon's gang obtain large corporate contributions. Guenther concludes by noting: "While I have discussed...the great potential of the Occupational Safety and Health Act(OSHA)as a sales point for fundraising and general support by employers, I do not believe the potential of this appeal is fully recognized." Hence, it can be seen, workers' safety and health was callously sacrificed to keep Nixon in the White House. The memo further advocates pressuring both OSHA and its research arm, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health(NIOSH), into not proposing any controversial new standards. This recommendation was immediately put into practice.

Shortly after the memo was written, NIOSH director Marcus Key requested the DOL to regulate worker exposure to several cancer causing chemicals. However, the DOL did nothing for over a year. Finally, only after a law suit by the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers International Union and the Washington based Health Research Group, a standard was proposed.

Between 1972 and 1974 NIOSH requested standards be set on 16 hazards. To date only one standard, on asbestos, has been issued. The hazards on which they haven't acted include: heat, noise, and chemicals which cause a variety of potentially fatal diseases.

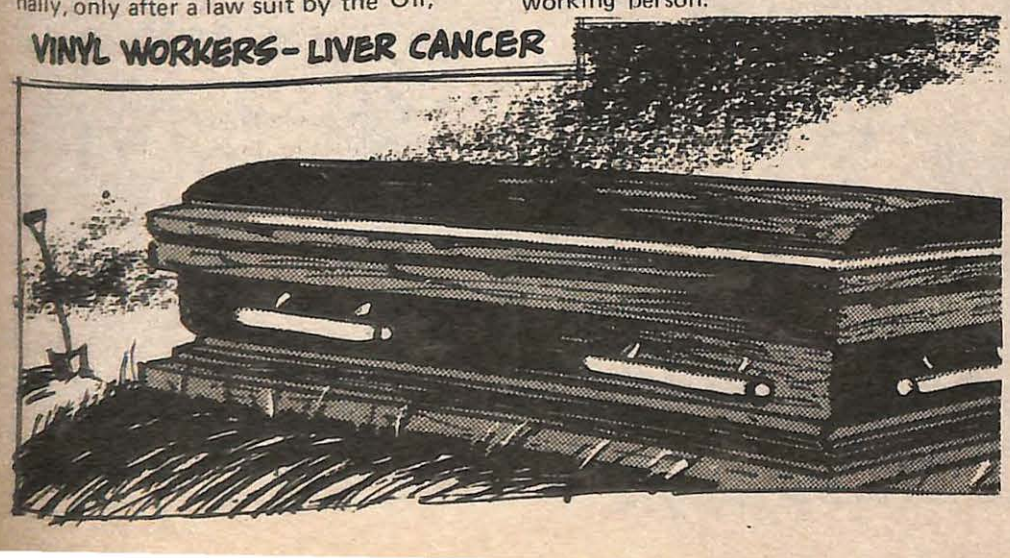
In addition to ignoring NIOSH's recommedations, the DOL attempted to curb the amount of research being done. NIOSH's budget was slahed $1.8 million, and the agency was told to avoid making **specific numerical recommendations** on standards for hazards. Also, a NIOSH doctor complained of being pressured to stop providing information to regional OSHA officials. He has since quit, because he couldn't tolerate the compromises of health standards taking place.

General Inefficiency

This pattern of neglect has filtered down to the local level. Local and regional inspector didn't do their jobs. They issue citations under wrong standards and delay in notifying local unions of inspection results. Furthermore, they will refuse to issue a citation even when it is justified under the law. Behavior such as this makes inspections ineffective.

The Health Research Group has asked both the Attorney General and The Special Watergate Prosecutor to undertake an investigation of the DOL's efforts to under mine OSHA. However, President Ford's pardon of Nixon suggests that, in all probability, the full truth will never become known. Additionally, it is likely that such vicious anti-worker policies will continue.

Thus, OSHA in its present form will not safeguard workers' health. It will continue to ignore its mandate to provide a safe and healthy workplace for every working person.



brass tacks

Ford Plan Relies on Big Profits

by Mike F. Holodnak

At President Ford's newly created Council on Wage and Price Stability, Argiculture Secretary Earl Butz said, "There is nothing wrong with the profit system. It works." A glance at the total economy shows that the profit system indeed does work. Unfortunately, it works only for the rich and powerful monopolies.

The auto monopolies, for example, have consistently raised prices on cars, not because cars cost more to make, but because the volume of sales has been falling. Since car companies are monopolies, they prefer to give the public cars that bring in the biggest profits, not the kind of cars the public wants, which are lower in price and which get higher gas mileage. And so, each time sales fall off, the monopolies simply raise the prices to maintain their profit margin.

More Unemployment

Each sales slump of course means a new round of layoffs. General Motors plans to lay off about 6,000 more workers November 11th. At the same time Ford and Chrysler have announced layoffs, with more expected in the future.

Already the official unemployment figures run over five million persons. Alan Greenspan, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, has predicted that unemployment may rise to six million workers by next year.

In the meantime, while government workers are being cut back, President Ford promised 70,000 government jobs to unemployed Vietnam veterans and he asked private industry, which is also cutting back to find another 200,000 jobs. Promises, promises.

Because of the profit system millions of young people who have lost all hope of ever finding any work and able-bodies senior citizens are thrown on the scrap heap. They are not allowed to contribute their skills and talents toward bettering their lot and the lot of all mankind, as they could easily be doing in a more sanely arranged society.

Profit System Waste

Because of the profit system the products that are being manufactured are made to fall apart quickly, adding to our enormous waste and pollution.

Because of the profit system millions of tons of food are routinely destroyed.

Because of the profit system millions of Americans suffer from malnutrition.

Because of the profit system our mass transit has been reduced to a state of paralysis.

Because of the profit system we have wars, and corporation precipitated coups. throughout the "free" world that have wiped out millions of people.

In short, anyone who happens to own a corporate empire can make unlimited profits simply by robbing the public and their environment with, not only complete freedom, but also with the full blessing of the Nixon-elected Ford administration.

news analysis

Tweedledee Beats Tweedledum: So-

by Matt Borenstein
Modern Times Staff

THE STATE -four more years
THE CONGRESS-two more years
THE CITY-wait till next year

This year I voted after supper at about 7:00 pm. When I got out of the voting booth, I was hungry all over again. I had this empty horrible feeling.

By the time you read this story, the results of the November 5 election will have been digested and regurgitated about ten times by television news commentators, news magazines and politicians. The low voter turnout and Democratic victories will be explained as Watergate backlash, the natural oscillation of the American electorate from one major party to the other and maybe as a reaction to " Republican mismanagement of the economy". By the time the newly elected candidates assume office in January, most of us will probally have forgotten the campaign promises or even that there was a campaign at all. It will be business as usual.

What Lies Ahead

The outgoing Meskill administration in Connecticut has allowed already meager state services to deteriorate. Such necessities as education, mental health care, transportation, welfare,"public utilities",occupational health(to name a few), were secondary priorities for state government for the last four years. Meskill jacked the regressive sales tax up to 7½% and then reduced it to 6% and bragged about a budget surplus.

Questions to keep in mind as a new Democratic Government takes office in January.

(1) Education systems in cities like New Haven are on the brink of financial disaster. Will the state government assume its responsibility in this area. Connecticut is in the bottom ten states in the country in aid to education(49th in 1972)!

(2)Will the new state government give us a reasonable mass transit system instead of feeding profit-making subsidies to Gengras and the Connecticut Company. With all the money the state has invested so far in operating subsidies for the privately owned bus companies, it probally could have bought it for us. The current agreement with bus drivers runs out in March. The Amalgamated Transit Union has been urging state ownership of the bus company.

(3) The Connecticut tax system(sales and property tax) hits middle and low income people the hardest. All candidates for state office promised that they would never vote for an income tax. None of them, however, said they would give us a tax system where the rich individuals and businesses in this state pay more of the bills. Connecticut has the highest average per capita income in mainland United States. The wages of Connecticuts' workers is not what makes this average high.

(4) The flat grant payment system has devastated many Connecticut residents forced to live on state welfare. How will this system be changed to provide a reasonable standard of living and job possibilities for welfare recipients?

(5)Wil electricity rates go down or even stay the same?

(6)Unemployment is increasing in Connecticut and the rest of the country. Will state jobs be "unfrozen"and new ones added? Will the only hopes for more jobs be on the whims of Connecticut business-particularly the armaments ndustry? Connecticut workers have been going that route for the last 20 years!

(7) Will state employees get collective bargaining rights? The basic right of a contract specifying wages and working conditions denied to those of us employed by the State of Connecticut!

(8) What steps will the new state office holders take to deal with inflation in such areas as supermarket prices, drug prices, interest rates, hospital costs, pensions, minimum wage, taxes, wages for state employees, utility rates, tuition at state colleges,.....

On To Washington

The Democrats now have a "veto proof Congress." The thing to watch is what they do about the economy.

None of the candidates from Connecticut seem to give us a great deal to nope for in the coming years as we watch:
-inflation grow
-recession deepen
-unemplyment grow
-corporate profits grow

Besides watching how Congress and President Ford manipulate our economic futures we should keep in mind:

(1)National Health Insurance-several bills are now before Congress and will probally extend to the next session. Some of the proposals would totally change the health system to provide virtually free preventive and continuous health care for every citizen. As usual, the AMA is opposed.

(2)Environment-will Congress let American corporations blackmail us into weakening current environmental legislation in the name of profit efficiency?

(3)Education-currently in New Haven, all federally funded educational programs are competing with each other for the few crumbs the Nixon-Ford Administration has left for the city.

This list could continue almost indefinitely. The possibilities are limitless, but the outlook with such Congressman as our Robert Giaimo is limited.

Back To New Haven

The revisions to the New Haven Charter passed. The mayor in subsequent terms will have more power of appointment and next year the Board of Aldermen will have two extra weeks to reveiw the budget and the power to juggle the figures with-in the tax rate set by the Board of Finance.

But for New Haven—**Wait Till Next Year!**

Nick Heyer

This was the scene at Democratic HQ in New Haven on Nov. 5 as supporters veiwed the incoming election results.

C.P. Gains Ballot Line

Joelle Fishman, who ran on the Communist Party ticket for U.S. Congress in the Third District, commented today on her party's achievement of ballot status.

"Gaining minor party status in the Third Congressional District is a major step," she said. "My 2,300 votes will put Congressman Giaimo on notice that there is a continuing and growing positive movement around the critical issues I raised during the compaign."

"The warm response we received," Ms. Fishman continued, "shows that people are searching for alternatives. Really, our campaign has just begun. We are part of the growing movement to turn back the tide of inflation, unemployment and racism and to advance policies of detente and peaceful normalization of international relations."

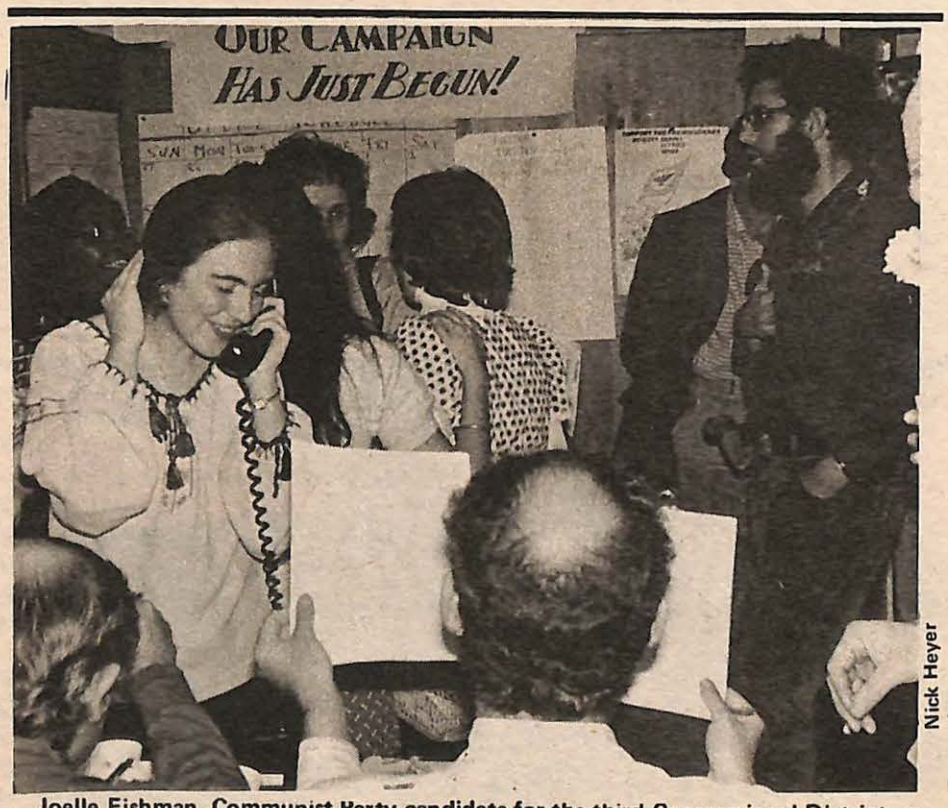
Ms. Fishman believes the 1974 elec tions "show the tremendous potential" for building a third party, "a people's anti-monopoly party in this District and in this country."

People Looking for Alternative Party

She said, "The election results as a whole show that people are fed up with the Nixon-Ford administration. In speaking with people during the campaign, it became clear to me that people would vote for a viable alternative to the Democratic party as well. Millions are beginning to break with the two-party politics of big business." Communist candidates nationally, she indicated, received a similar vote response in this week's election.

The Communist candidate concluded by referring to a dominant theme during her campaign: "No matter who has been elected to public office, only the people themselves , by united, independent action here and in Washington, can guarantee their own future. Only organized mass struggle, led by labor, can put an end tc inflation, unemployment, racism, militarism and poverty. With or without the help of their elected officials, only the people can turn this country around onto the path of peace, jobs, and security."

Joelle Fishman expressed deep thanks to the Independent Citizens Committee and friends who worked "so hard, diligently and beautifully" to gain enough votes for ballot status and "to help open minds and erase fears based on false notions about the program and purpose of the Communist Party USA." She said she looks forward to more and larger such support in her next campaign.



Nick Heyer

Joelle Fishman, Communist Party candidate for the third Congressional District, receives voter news at her Campaign HQ.

school notes

The School Demystified

by Ruth Hein

Once in a great while a book comes along that completely changes the way we understand an event or an institution and that makes sense of what have seemed puzzling contradictions. Such a book is *The Great School Legend* by Colin Greer, a social scientist teaching at Brooklyn College. Greer's argument, in brief, is as follows.

We believe that schools are failing because they no longer do what they did well for many years--to integrate rural and immigrant groups into the web of American democratic society by equipping the children of the poor with the skills needed to advance. The Italians, the Poles, the Jews the conventional argument goes, succeeded in America through universal public education. Today's failure to do the same for the blacks, the Puerto Ricans, the Chicanos and others is seen as the crux of the difficulty. Either the schools are doing something wrong or these groups are resistent to "uplift." The high rate of school failure becomes the focus of reformers' efforts and the criterion by which the system is condemned.

But, Greer argues, we are taken in by the schools' rhetoric and overlook its practice. In fact, schools as they have always functioned and as they are functioning today are succeeding magnificiently in their purpose, which is to make certain that a few advance while the rest become reconciled to their own failure.

Just a Myth

Greer clearly demonstrates that the myth of the school as the great leveler, the in-gatherer of minority groups, is just that--a myth. Certainly a number of students have finished school and have gone on to make names for themselves in the outside world; it is also true, however, that most of these have come from comparatively privileged homes. If we examine the successful children of immigrants, it is clear that they constitute a minority of the entire group, while the majority is stuck in generations of poverty and near-poverty. In general, to the extent that a person, group, or category succeeded, the preconditions for success (middle-classness, adjustment to urban life, etc.) preceded the school experience.

Blaming Schools Unrealistic

It is unrealistic, therefore, to blame the schools for doing something that they in fact have never done or intended to do--though they have spoken as if this were their major purpose (and have probably convinced most of their employees that this is the aim).

The high rate of school failures (drop-outs or push-outs) has been used to supply the labor market and to assure that the professions and better jobs remain in the hands of the original elite--the same group that controls school systems, writes textbooks, and formulates intelligence and aptitude tests.

The current crisis, the reason the system has become transparent, is caused by the sudden disappearance of unskilled jobs, so that untrained--and unemployable--labor becomes a conspicuous blot on the urban landscape.

Previous attempts to humanize the schools--the "child centered" movement of the 1920s, the "true democracy" curriculum of the 1940s and early 1950s--have recognized the cynical social purpose of public schooling. In each case, however, these reforms have been coopted into the prevailing method, furnishing some cosmetic innovations but not altering the underlying dynamic.

Will Not Abandon Hope

Greer thus paints a pessimistic picture. Himself dedicated to education, however, he will not abandon hope. In a rousing concluding chapter he suggests that, as long as schools are an arm of the total society, we may be able to bring about overall reform by putting pressure on the schools. If we insist that they live up to their rhetoric (rather than their reality) we may be able to substitute an environment where "more children will do well academically. Perhaps even more will do well in a framework of mutual respect and acceptance--of competition against self--rather than within the framework of hostility, suspicion, and incompleteness which presently dominates."

I would be content with a modest start: make *The Great School Legend* required reading for every teacher and school administrator in the country.

Note: *The Great School Legend* by Colin Greer is available in paperback (New York: Viking, 1972) at $2.25.

Human Rights Explored

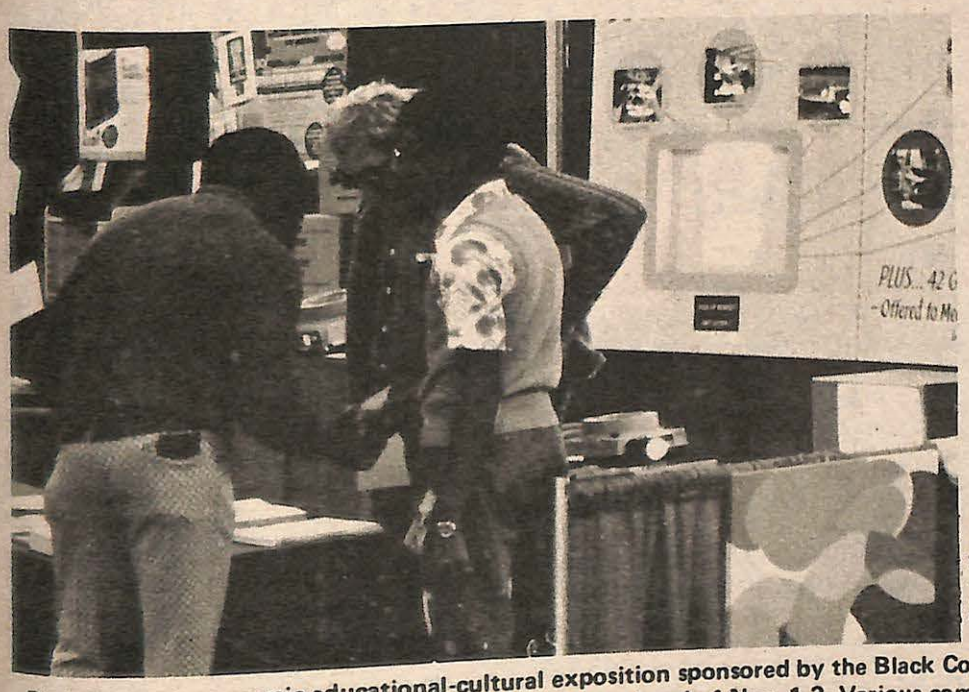
Nick Heyer

There were almost 100 people who participated in the Medical Conference on Human Rights(MCHR) Regional Conference held the weekend of Nov. 1-3. Mostly from Connecticut, some paticipants came from Ithica, Newark, New York, Vermont and Boston, Mass. Discussions centered around how health care can respond to human rights and needs. The participants focused on three issues: Occupational Safety and Health, Patients Rights and National Health Insurance. On this last issue, MCHR has been working with Congressman Dellums who will soon introduce a new National Health Bill. Delums is actively seeking local participation and feedback on his bill. A copy of the proposal is available from MCHR.

Community Calendar

Tues. Nov 19 **Sat. Nov 23**	**Indian Crafts.** Lead by Jan Murray and Joy Wulke of the Teacher Center Staff. Tuesday from 3:30-5:30 and Saturday from 10:00-12:00 noon. $1 fee. Just one of many workshops at the Teacher Center, 425 College St. 776-5987
Fri. Nov 22 **Sat. Nov 23**	**The Company, Inc.: Picnic.** This new North Haven Community Theatre group presents its first adult production of the season. Directed by John F. Bray of North Haven High School and sponsored by the North Haven Recreation Dept. 8:30 at the Recreation Center 7 Lindsley St. $2.50 adults, $1.50 students at the Center Office.
Tues. Nov 26	**United Farm Workers Picket!** In Derby Conn. there will be a group picket and demonstration to oppose the Derby Shoprite's policy of featuring scab grapes. 4:30 pm. BOYCOTT GRAPES, BOYCOTT GALLO.
Tues. Nov 26	**Project Limbo: Sentencing & Parole — Equal Justice?** A symposium asking are there different systems of justice for rich and poor? Does law enforcement equal justice? At the University of New Haven, E120 — Engineering Building.
Thurs. Dec 5	**Project Limbo: What is the Future of Corrections?** Concerns the results of imprisonment and the problems of re-integrating the punished individuals into society. New ideas in corrections. Should prisons be abolished altogether? What are the alternatives? At the University of New Haven, E120 — Engineering Building.
Sat. Dec 7	**Conn. Women's Political Caucus.** Speakers Workshop for Women. Presented to increase your effectiveness in public speaking on the Women's Movement and Women in Politics. At the University of Bridgeport. $10 fee. For info contact Rona Finizie, 2440 North Ave., Bridgeport. 335-0436
Wed. Dec 11	**Dr. Caleb Gettegno: Awareness, The Only Educable Component in Man.** The developer of The Subordination of Teaching to Learning (used at the High School in the Community and other programs in New Haven) presents a workshop on learning from 4:00-10:00 pm. $10 fee. Please make reservations through the Teacher Center - 776-5987
Every Week	**At the Women's Center.** Sundays at 2:30 Divorce and Separation Rap Groups; Mondays at 5:30 Women's Self Defense and at 8:00 Lesbian Rap Group; Tuesdays at 8:00 Open Rap Group; Thursday at 8:00 Women vs Conn. and Abortion Referral Project Groups- call for info. The Women's Center, 215 Park St. 436-0272
Til Nov 27	FREE LIBRARY EXHIBITS. Main Branch: Marian Celentano - Photos; Chapel Branch: Gordon Thorne - Drawings, Paintings; Mitchell Branch: Felicia Beebe - Watercolors.

Black Expo '74



Nick Heyer

Black Expo, an economic-educational-cultural exposition sponsored by the Black Coalition and other New Haven agencies, was held the weekend of Nov. 1-3. Various community and educational services as well as prominent national speakers took part in the program.

on the job

Labor Law: It Ain't Just Union Suits

by Renée Poirier and Don Pogue

I am a lawyer. Primarily I work for Unions, dealing with the rules that govern people on their jobs.

Although most of my practice is labor law, I also handle individual cases. I write up wills, deal with tenants and their problems, and work on whatever legal problems any clients have. Individuals have no organizations which can solve their problems, so they come to a lawyer. It would seem better if they did have a group, because they would be more powerful, but with a lawyer at least they have representation.

A lawyer works with words and with conflicts about the interpretation of those words. Basically, my job is to write and interpret rules. I study the history of specific laws, and the individual cases in which the laws have been applied, in order to understand what a particular rule means and how it can be used.

As much as possible, I work with local unions, because I enjoy it, and because I think that the labor movement has made more of a contribution to improving working peoples' lives than any other organization or movement.

What I do for each of my union clients depends on how that union is organized and what its problems are. There are, however, areas in which I can service all unions.

A Good Example

For instance, I work on negotiations. I research the union's demands and write them in contract language. I enjoy this work because there is pressure on me to make sure that the legal language is written in a way that people can understand. And if I do my job right, I can contribute to the most crucial question in negotiations which is always how well everyone in the organization understands the demands and supports them.

I am also responsible for finding the loopholes in contracts and anticipating any difficulties which might crop up in the interpretation and administration of the contract. For example, I help unions with their pension plans, working on the technical language to make sure that the language is written in a way which will definitely get the people the benefits they have earned.

When negotiations lead to a strike, my job doesn't end. I help to publicize the issues and build the kind of support that helps the union win.

Unions and Contracts

If a union already has a contact, I help with the day to day problems which come up on the job. Most of the unions that I work for will call me to discuss a problem or a possible grievance. We figure out what the peoples' rights are and what remedies, if any, there are.

Working with contracts which are already in effect can result in many problems, The contact may not be as good as it should be, or the employer may not administer it fairly. He might try to get out of giving a legitimate benefit or attempt to undermine the union. In one case, management is trying to increase the workload of everyone and is harassing the union leaders in particular. The union wants to know what rights it has to deal with these problems. I supply them with that information.

As much as possible, I encourage the unions to deal with a problem on the spot. If they have a grievance that stewards and members in the department can pressure managment to solve, it's always the quickest, easiest and best solution. Unfortunately, there are very few contracts in the New Haven area that still give the union the right to take job actions over unresolved griveances. Usually the only remedy is arbitration.

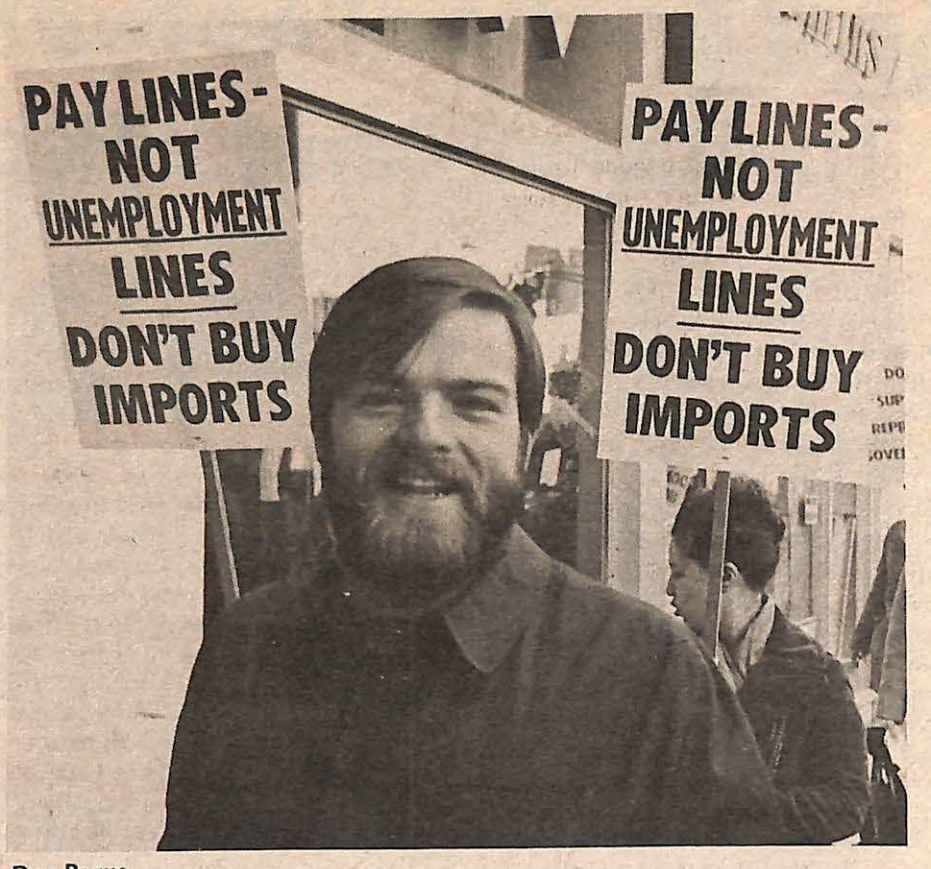
Arbitration has some advantages in that the threat to go to arbitration can put pressure on an employer to administer contracts honestly. The problems with arbitration is that it is expensive, time consuming, and if the language is not clearly in the union's favor, the arbitrator will probably not make a favorable decision. If problems can be dealt with by the stewards and through union pressure , it is probablymore effective.

Other Legal Areas

I also handle workmen's compensation cases for individual clients, and working on these cases is a good example of the problems of being a lawyer. Getting workmen's compensation for an injured client is good, because he or she needs it, but the benfits are not adequate. The most that a totally disabled person can get is less than $120 a week. Workmen's compensation is a tax put on the employer to encourage him to maintain a safe and healthy workplace. But $120 a week for the loss of arms and legs is not enough to deter an employer from continuing unsafe or unhealthy practices.

If lawyers are to represent their clients, they have to give more than just good individual service. They have to work to build the kind of organization which can change the law. That is why I work with the New Haven Occupational Safety and Health Project, which helps build strong health and safety committees for Unions. I think that this is the most important part of my job, helping build' the kind of strong organization which can really solve peoples' problems. If everyone in a union understands his or her own rights and how to make sure those rights are recognized, the union together will be much stronger.

The crucial way I can contribute to this is to share what I have learned about laws and how laws succeed or fail.



Don Pogue

Nick Heyer

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New Haven— newly decorated 2 Bdrm 1st Floor. Parking, bsmnt, yard, kids. $110 (5181)
RENTEX Sm Fee **397-2500**

New Haven— 3 Bdrms with heat. Carpet, appli, parking, kids, reas. (5364)
RENTEX Sm Fee **397-2500**

Westville— lovely 2 Bdrms 1st Floor parking, yard, bsmnt. $160. Pets O K. (5014)
RENTEX Sm Fee **397-2500**

Redecorated— 3 Bdrms, fenced, garage, bsmnt, kids. $175 (5791)
RENTEX sm fee **397-2500**